THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, October 11, 1802.

On the Influence which Women of Rank and Fortune have on Society.

[From Miſs More's Work on Education.]

AMONG the talents for the application of which women of the higher claſs will be peculiarly accountable, there is one, the importance of which they can ſcarcely rate too highly. This talent is influence. We read of the greateſt orator of antiquity, that the wiſeſt plans which it had coſt him years to frame a woman could overturn in a ſingle day; and when one conſiders the variety of miſchiefs which an ill directed influence has been known to produce, one is led to reflect with the moſt ſanguine hope on the beneficial effects to be expected from the ſame powerful force when exerted in its true direction.

The general ſtate of civilized ſociety depends more than thoſe are aware who are not accuſtomed to ſcrutinize into the ſprings of human action on the prevailing ſentiments and habits of women, and on the nature and degree of the eſtimation in which they are held. Even thoſe who admit the power of female elegance on the manners of men do not always attend to the influence of female principles on their character. In the former caſe indeed women are apt to be ſufficiently conſcious of their power, and not backward in turning it to account. But there are nobler objects to be effected by the exertion of their powers, and unfortunately ladies who are often unreaſonably confident where they ought to be diffident, are ſometimes capriciouſly diffident juſt when they ought to feel where their true importance lies, and feeling to exert it. To uſe their boaſted power over mankind to no higher purpoſe than the gratification of vanity, or the indulgence of pleaſure, is the degrading triumph of

thoſe fair victims to luxury, caprice, and deſpotiſm, whom the laws and the religion of the voluptous prophet of Arabia exclude from light, and liberty, and knowledge; and it is humbling to reflect that in thoſe countries in which fondneſs for the mere perſons of women is carried to the higheſt exceſs, they are ſlaves, and that their moral and intellectual degradation increaſes in direct proportion to the adoration which is paid to mere external charms.

But I turn to the bright reverſe of this mortifying ſcene; to a country where the female ſex enjoys the bleſſings of liberal inſtruction, of reaſonable laws, of a pure religion, and all the endearing pleaſures of an equal, ſocial, virtuous, and delightful intercourſe: I turn with an earneſt hope, that women thus richly endowed with the bounties of providence will not content themſelves with poliſhing when they are able to reform; with entertaining when they may awaken, and with captivating for a day when they may bring into action powers of which the effects may be commenſurate with eternity.

In this moment of alarm and peril, I would call on them with a warning voice which ſhould ſtir up every latent principle in their minds, and kindle every ſlumbering energy in their hearts; I would call on them to come forward, and contribute their full and fair proportion towards the ſaving of their country. But I would call on them to come forward without departing from the refinement of their character, without derogating from the dignity of their rank, without blemiſhing the delicacy of their ſex: I would call them to the beſt and moſt appropriate exertion of their power to raiſe the depreſſed tone of public morals, and to awaken the drowſy ſpirit of religious principle. They know too well how arbitrarily they give the law to manners, and with how deſpotic a ſway they fix the ſtandard of faſhion. But this is not enough: for on the uſe which women of the ſuperior claſs may now be diſpoſed to make of that power, delegated to them by the courteſy of cuſtom, by the honeſt gallantry of the heart, by the imperious controul of virtuous affections, by the habits of civilized ſtates, by the uſages of poliſhed ſocieties; on the uſe I ſay which they ſhall hereafter make of this influence will depend, in no low degree, the well being of thoſe ſtates, and the virtue and happineſs, nay perhaps the very exiſtence, of that ſociety.

M. Garnerin's Account of his Aſcent and Deſcent.

THE experiment of my 31ſt aſcent, and of my 5th deſcent in a parachute, took place on Tueſday, September 21, 1802, on a very fine day, and in the preſence of an immenſe crowd of ſpectators, who filled the ſtreets, windows, and houſes; and the

the ſcaffoldings erected round the place of my departure, which, alas! was the only ſpot not crowded with ſpectators!

It is neceſſary, when I undertake the experiment of the parachute, that I ſhould know the ſtate of the atmoſphere, in order to enable me to judge of the courſe I am to take; and alſo to adopt the precautions proper to enſure ſucceſs. About three in the afternoon, I had the ſatisfaction of having a firſt indication from the agreeable effect of a very pretty Montgolfier balloon, which was ſent off from the environs of St. George's Parade, and which took a direction over Mary-la-bonne-fields.

The ſucceſs of this experiment ought not to prevent me from expreſſing my opinion of the dangers that may reſult to the general ſafety from the daily abuſe of thoſe nightly experiments, which are not always directed by perſons converſant with the ſubject. One ſhudders when one thinks, that a machine of this kind may fall, and fall on fire, upon the cordage of a ſhip, and thus involves, in one great conflagration, all that conſtitutes the wealth of one of the firſt cities in the world. The uſe of theſe machines was prohibited in France, and the conſular government confided to me alone the direction of night balloons, which I conceived and introduced into the national fetes.

Convinced of the direction of the wind, I haſtened the filling of the balloon, and at five P. M. I filled the pilot balloon, which Mrs. Sheridan did me the honour to launch. It ſeemed to me that I was conciliating the favour of Heaven by the interference of the graces. This pilot balloon aſcended quickly, and was ſoon out of ſight, marking out my career towards the north eaſt. Whilſt the anxious crowd were following the path of my little pilot, I ſuſpended the parachute to the balloon: this painful and difficult operation was executed with all poſſible addreſs, by the aſſiſtance of the moſt diſtinguiſhed perſonages. The parachute was gradually ſuſpended, and the breeze, which was very gentle, did not produce the leaſt obſtacle.

At length I haſtened to ballaſt my cylindrical bark, and to place myſelf in it; a ſight which the public contemplated with deep intereſt—it ſeemed at that moment as if every heart beat in uniſon, for though I have not the advantage of ſpeaking Engliſh, every one underſtood my ſigns. I aſcertained the height of the barometer, which was at 29½ inches. I now preſſed the moment of my departure, and the period of my fulfilling my engagements with the Britiſh public. All the cords were cut; I roſe amidſt the moſt expreſſive ſilence, and launching into infinite ſpace, diſcovered from on high the countleſs multitude that ſent up their ſighs and prayers for my ſafety.

My parachute in the form of a dome over my head, had a majeſtic effect. I quickened my aſcending impulſe, and roſe through light and thin vapours, where the cold informed me that I was entering into the upper region I followed atten-

tively the route I was taking, and perceived I had reached the extremity of the city, and that immenſe fields and meadows offered themſelves for my deſcent. I examined my barometer, which I found fallen to 23 inches—the ſky was clear, the moment favourable, and I threw down my flag to endeavour to ſhew the people aſſembled that I was on the point of cutting the cord that ſuſpended me between heaven and earth. I made every neceſſary diſpoſition, prepared my ballaſt, and meaſured with my eye the vaſt ſpace that ſeparated me from the reſt of the human race. I felt my courage confirmed by the certainty that my combinations were juſt. I then took out my knife, and with a hand firm, from a conſcience void of reproach, and which had never been lifted againſt any one but in the field of victory, I cut the cord. My balloon roſe, and I felt myſelf precipitated with a velocity which was checked by the ſudden unfolding of my parachute. I ſaw that all my calculations were juſt, and my mind remained calm and ſerene. I endeavoured to modulate my gravitation, and the oſcillation which I experienced increaſed in proportion as I approached the breeze that blows in the middle regions; nearly ten minutes had elapſed, and I felt that the more time I took in deſcending, the ſafer I ſhould reach the ground.

At length I perceived thouſands of perſons, ſome on horſeback, others on foot, following me, all of whom encouraged me by their wiſhes, while they opened their arms to receive me. I came near the earth; and, after one bound, I landed, and quitted the parachute without any ſhock or accident. The firſt perſon that came to me preſſed me in his arms; but, without loſing any time, I employed myſelf in detaching the principal circle of the parachute, being anxious to ſave the inſtrument that had ſo well guaranteed me; but a crowd ſoon ſurrounded me—laid hold of me, and carried me in triumph, till an indiſpoſition, the conſequence and effect of the oſcillation I had experienced, obliged the proceſſion to ſtop. I was then ſeized with a painful vomiting, which I uſually experience for ſeveral hours after a deſcent in a parachute. The interval of a moment, however, permitted me to get on horſeback; a numerous cavalcade approached to keep off the croud, whoſe enthuſiaſm and tranſports incommoded me not a little. The Duke of York was among the horſemen, and the proceſſion proceeded with great difficulty in the midſt of the crowd, who ſhouted forth their applauſe; and had before them the tri-coloured flag which I had thrown down, and which was carried by a member of parliament. Among the prodigious concourſe of perſons on foot, I remarked Lord Stanhope, from whom I had received the councils of a ſcientific man, and who penetrated through the crowd to ſhake hands with me. At length, after ſeveral incidents, all produced by the univerſal intereſt with which I was honoured,

honoured, I withdrew from the crowd without any other accident than that of having had my right foot jammed between the horſe I rode and a horſeman who preſſed too cloſe to me. My parachute was preſerved as well as could be expected; a few of the cords only were cut. It is now exhibiting at the Pantheon, where a great concourſe of perſons have been to examine it.

I have juſt learned that my balloon deſcended on the 22d (Wedneſday) at Mr. Abraham Harding's, near Frencham Mill, three miles beyond Farnham, in Surry, where it is in ſafety.

Among the congratulations I have had the honour of receiving from the moſt diſtinguiſhed perſons, I have not had any more flattering than thoſe I have received from Sir Sidney Smith, who came to me, with General Douglas, on purpoſe, as he ſaid to me, to ſhake hands with a brave man. This compliment is of the greateſt value from the mouth of one of the braveſt ſoldiers in Europe.

I now enjoy the pleaſure of having fulfilled my engagements with the public, to whom I owe every acknowledgement and thanks for the encouragement I have received from them, and for the confidence which they placed in my promiſe, at a time when I was obliged to defer the experiment of the parachute. It is with this grateful ſenſe of their patronage that I am going to make a new aſcent at Briſtol.

Yet feeling as I do, theſe ſentiments of gratitude, will it be too much to aſk the public to revenge with their contempt the inſult to my honour and my moral character, I have received from a public paper, which, upon advices from a correſpondent whoſe veracity they ought to have ſuſpected, has aſked, whether I did play an infamous part in the French revolution? Sir, there are in France, but two, my brother and myſelf, of the name of Garnerin, and we have played no other part than that which honour may avow in all countries, and at all times. It was upon the frontiers, and in the boſom of her armies, that we endeavoured to be uſeful to our country. I might refer in England, to inconteſtible evidence relative to my conduct. I am ſure his royal highneſs the Duke of York would be diſpoſed to do me the juſtice I deſerve, if he recollects the action of Marchiennes, in the night of the 31ſt of October, 1793, in which I had the honour of diſputing, with a handful of men, that poſt, after it had been ſurpriſed by a ſtrong detachment of his army. The action was extremely bloody, and terminated in a ſurrender, which made me his royal highneſs's priſoner, and occaſioned me thirty-one months impriſonment in the priſons of Auſtria."

[According to M. Garnerin's calculation, he went to the height of 4154 French feet.]

The

The laſt Will of the late Prince Henry of Pruſſia, bearing Date the 26th of February, 1802.

I Will be left in the place where I may be, whether in bed or in a chair, till no doubt ſhall remain on my death; but while even uncertainty remains, the drawers and cloſets in the chamber where I perform the laſt act of life, ſhall be ſealed. When it is certain that I am no more, my corpſe ſhall be laid on a ſimple tent-bed. I will not trouble my domeſtics to adorn me; and, ſince cuſtom, however, requires it, I will be dreſſed in my oldeſt regimentals; and ſhould my legs be ſwelled, my boots ſhall be cut open; it does not ſignify, ſo they are only fit for a dead man to wear. Beſides thoſe who place a real intereſt in my loſs, no one ſhall be permitted to ſee me. I will not tend to an odious and diſguſting ſpectacle, by being exhibited to the public.

Count Rœder ſhall announce my deceaſe to the king; at the ſame time telling him that Count de la Roche Aymon, being charged with my laſt will as to my interment, ſhall afterwards diſcharge a private commiſſion, and deliver him ſomething from me: he ſhall tell him that, according to this will, I am to be interred at Rheinſberg; that that ſame deſire ſtood in my teſtament, which I requeſt him to open ſpeedily; that my burial-place was tolerable, and that I made an epitaph myſelf, which muſt remain on the ſtone that is to be placed at the vault on the very day of my interment. That I deſire neither flambeaux nor lights around my coffin, it being to be cloſed as ſoon as it ſhall be ready and I put into it, not wiſhing to ſtay a moment longer above the earth than is neceſſary to aſcertain my death.

A ſingle perſon ſhall guard my corpſe, to keep the cats and dogs from it. I do not wiſh to torment people after my deceaſe to ſit up by an inanimate creature; no cords, no fringe, either in or upon my coffin. The day of interment being fixed, it ſhall have place at noon, if in the winter; if ſummer, at four or five o'clock: without any other pomp, my domeſtics ſhall carry my corpſe down the ſtairs, and through the ſaloon of yellow marble, to the reſidence of my diſſolution, which is not far off: as ſoon as the coffin is put in there, the tombſtone, which I have had engraved, ſhall be placed at the entrance by the Architect Reinert; and this having occurred, all is done. I belong no more then to the kingdom of the living.

I beſeech the Count De la Roche Aymon to ſummon together the gentlemen who ſhall have attended me to my death, with the private ſecretary Le Beauld, and the Architect Reinert, in an apartment of the caſtle, after my interment. Firſt, I profeſs my acknowledgements to the Count De la Roche Aymon, for his tender attachment to me all the time I had the happineſs of his company. I requeſt him to tell thoſe gentlemen, that I

die grateful; that I pray them to protect each other during their lives; this being the greatest evidence they can give the world, that my memory has not escaped them.

I also wish the Count De la Roche Aymon to call together all my chamberlains, cooks, musicians, and lacqueys, and to have the politeness to thank them, in my name, for the services which they have rendered me; telling them all, from the first to the last, that I have made a will, by which I have bequeathed remembrances in money or effects; that each, when the king has opened it, shall know what my friendship or gratitude bequeaths; but that it is natural, without disrespect to any one, for me to estimate those who, in my opinion, have been sincere and open, and most truly attached to me; and therefore by favouring the one more than the other, I have only followed the impulse of my heart. That I, moreover, being only able to dispose of a part of my property, have not had it in my power to do more than it will be found I have done: but that I requested every one to be satisfied; and the property that he got, to consider as the property that I wish to all; I dying in the hope, that there can no greater proof of attachment be given to my ashes, than that no one murmurs at the little or the much of the distribution. Moreover, I have recommended those who have served me, to the king and my heirs, not doubting but that act of my last testament will be executed.

The sword which I wore in the seven years war, shall be delivered to the Count De la Roche; and I request him, after my interment, to repair to the king, and to assure him of my last wishes for him and the state; at the same time handing my sword to him, with the prayer, in my name, to have it preserved, in memory of the faithfulness with which I have served my country. Thus is the last act of my life terminated.—eternally farewell.

Some Account of the celebrated Commodore Paul Jones, translated from a Manuscript written by himself.

(Continued from Page 269.)

NEXT day, April 24, 1778, I prepared to return to Carrickfergus, to attack the Drake in open day; but the lieutenants were averse to the project, and the crew of the Ranger became so mutinous, that I ran no small risk of being either killed or thrown into the sea; and but two days before, I was on the point of being abandoned, and left a-shore at Whitehaven.

In the mean time, the captain of the Drake sloop of war, having been informed of our descent at Whitehaven, prepared

to

to attack us; and, while every thing was getting ready, he diſpatched an officer on board his boat, with a ſpy-glaſs, in order to reconnoitre the Ranger. On this I immediately maſked my guns, kept my men out of ſight, and diſguiſed the veſſel in ſuch a manner as to reſemble a merchantman; in conſequence of this the crew of the boat were deceived and taken. This trifling ſucceſs produced the effects of enchantment on my ſailors, who were no longer averſe from giving her battle.

The Drake having fired ſome cannon to recal her boat, hoiſted her anchor, and came out, attended by a number of yachts and pleaſure-boats, with ladies and gentlemen on board: but, when the engagement became ſerious they thought proper to withdraw to a reſpectful diſtance.

No ſooner did the enemy make his appearance, than I lay to, determined not to engage until ſhe came within piſtol-ſhot. The engagement was accordingly ſuſtained with great vivacity on both ſides, during an hour and five minutes, when, the captain and lieutenant being both mortally wounded, the Engliſh flag was lowered, and I took poſſeſſion of her. I regretted greatly the death of theſe brave men, and committed them to the ocean with all the honours due to their valour. I, at the ſame time, diſmiſſed the ſix fiſhermen, whom I have before mentioned, whoſe loſs I repaired, and whoſe ſervices I recompenſed out of my own purſe.

The Drake was greatly damaged in her maſts and tackling, and loſt forty-two men either killed or wounded during the action. I had alſo taken ſeveral other prizes; but, as my complement of men had only amounted to 123, I retained no more than two of them, which arrived in ſafety at Breſt, where I myſelf anchored with the Ranger and Drake, on the 7th of May, after an abſence of twenty-eight days, during which I had taken upwards of 200 priſoners. This expedition was of great diſſervice to Great Britain, as ſhe was not only obliged to fortify her ports, but alſo to permit the arming of the Iriſh volunteers, as Lord Mountmorris demonſtrated in a ſpeech in parliament.

At the time I had been obliged to permit my people to take Lady Selkirk's plate, I determined to redeem it out of my own funds the moment it ſhould be ſold, and reſtore it to the family. Accordingly, on my arrival at Breſt, I inſtantly diſpatched a moſt pathetic letter to her ladyſhip, in which I detailed the motives of my expedition, and the cruel neceſſity I was under, in conſequence of the conduct of the Engliſh in America, to inflict the puniſhment of retaliation. This was ſent open to the poſtmaſter-general, that it might be ſhewn to the King of England and his miniſters, and the court of St. James's was at length obliged to renounce the ſanguinary act of its parliament, and exchange thoſe very Americans whom they called traitors,

pirates, and felons, againſt the priſoners of war, whom I had taken and carried to France.

During the courſe of the war I found it impoſſible to reſtore the plate belonging to the Selkirk family; I, however, purchaſed it at a great price, and at length found means to ſend it by land from l'Orient to Calais, by means of M. de Calonne, who tranſmitted me a very flattering letter on the occaſion; in ſhort, I at length received a very flattering letter from the Earl of Selkirk, acknowledging the receipt of it.

I had no ſooner arrived at Breſt, than Admiral the Count D'Orvilliers tranſmitted an account of my expedition to the miniſter of the marine, in conſequence of which it was intimated to Dr. Franklin, that his majeſty was deſirous I ſhould repair to Verſailles, as he was reſolved to employ me on a ſecret expedition, for which purpoſe he would give me the Indienne, with ſome other frigates, with troops, &c. for the purpoſe of effecting a deſcent. I was inſtantly informed of this by the ambaſſador, who obſerved to me, at the ſame time, that this muſt be conſidered as a profound ſecret, it being of ſo important a nature, that it had been deemed proper to withhold a communication of it even to his colleagues.

M. de Sartine received me with the moſt diſtinguiſhed politeneſs, making me, at the ſame time, the moſt flattering promiſes; and the Prince de Naſſau was ſent into Holland to give inſtructions for the neceſſary arrangements for arming and equipping the frigate intended for me. But, in a ſhort time after this, hoſtilities took place between France and England, in conſequence of the action with La Belle Poule. This not a little embarraſſed the miniſter of the marine, and the difficulty was not diminiſhed by the intelligence brought by the prince, who aſſerted that the Dutch would not permit the Indienne to be equipped.

As M. de Sartine had written to the three American miniſters, and obtained their conſent for my remaining in Europe, I offered to ſerve on board of the grand fleet; I alſo communicated ſeveral plans for crippling the power of England, ſuch as that of deſtroying her trade and ſettlements on the coaſt of Africa, and in Hudſon's Bay; of annihilating their fiſheries in Newfoundland; intercepting their Eaſt and Weſt India, and, above all, the Baltic fleet, which was eſcorted by a ſingle frigate, as I learned by certain information from England. The miniſter adopted the laſt of theſe plans, and I accordingly repaired to Breſt, to take the command of one of the frigates of that port, with two others, and a cutter, &c. then at St. Maloes; but I found on my arrival, that the Admiral had appointed a French officer to the veſſel in queſtion, and as there was not a ſingle moment to be loſt, the ſenior officer of the frigates at St. Maloes

was diſpatched againſt the Baltic fleet, which he miſſed, by not ſteering ſufficiently near to the coaſt of England to intercept it.

Being greatly diſguſted with a ſeries of delays, that enſued during nine months, I at length repaired to Verſailles, with an intention of returning to America, if I ſhould not immediately obtain a command; for I recollected the ſaying of Old Richard, "If you wiſh that your affairs ſhould be proſperous ſuperintend them in perſon," &c. This induced me to promiſe, that if the miniſter ſhould at length comply with my requeſt, I ſhould call my own ſhip "Old Richard."

Accordingly, on obtaining Le Duras, until a better veſſel could be procured, I called her———She was a very ſmall and very old and infirm veſſel, that had made four voyages to the Eaſt Indies. As proper guns could not be procured at l'Orient, where the ——— lay, I repaired, firſt to Bourdeaux, and then to Angoulême, where I made a contract for ſuch as I wanted. On my return, I found that the Marquis de la Fayette, who had returned from America, was deſirous to join me in the expedition, it being intended that he ſhould command a body of land-forces, he having obtained the king's command for that purpoſe.

While the neceſſary arrangements were making at court, a naval commiſſary purchaſed at Nantes a merchantman, called La Pallas, of thirty-two eight-pounders, and a brig, named La Vengeance, of twelve three-pounders; but neither of them was calculated for war: to theſe was added Le Cerf, a very fine cutter belonging to the royal navy, carrying eighteen nine-pounders; with the Alliance, a new frigate, belonging to the United States; but, as the guns had not yet arrived from Angoulême, the Good Man Richard was armed from an old battery of twelve-pounders, and, as the expedition was intended againſt the enemy's ports, I mounted ſix old eighteen-pounders in the gun-room, ſo that ſhe might, in ſome meaſure, be called a forty-gun ſhip. As it was found impoſſible to procure a ſufficient number of American ſailors, I determined to ſupply the deficiency by enrolling Engliſh ones, who happened to be priſoners of war in France; and, in addition to theſe, a certain number of peaſants was levied, ſo that we may be ſaid to have had as bad a crew as was ever ſhipped on board any veſſel. I was given to underſtand, however, that the choſen body of troops, under the command of the Marquis de la Fayette, would ſerve as a guarantee for their good conduct; but, no ſooner was the little ſquadron ready, than I received a letter from the marquis, intimating that, the object of the expedition having been divulged at Paris, the king had iſſued orders to prevent the embarkation of the troops, in conſequence of which he had joined his regiment.

Thus

Thus the project, which was no less than that of putting Liverpool, the second town in England, under contribution, failed, in consequence of having been indiscreetly communicated to ******

I ought also to remark, that, according to the first arrangement, my little squadron was to have been joined by two fire-ships, and 500 men of Walsh's Irish regiment; but the minister did not keep his word, for he neither procured for me the fire-ships, nor the soldiers, so that it became impossible for me to fulfil the plan I had concerted, although it was still more important than that of seizing on Liverpool.

(To be continued.)

INTERESTING TRIAL.

WARWICK SUMMER ASSIZES, August 26, 1802.

A Cause of great importance to the interest of all men of landed property was tried before Mr. Justice Heath and a most respectable special jury of the county, several of whom were gentlemen of legal education. The question was, whether a payment of 13d. per acre, in lieu of all tythes great and small, in a lordship called Streetfield, in the parish of Monks-Kirby, in that county, could be supported as a modus? It was proved on the part of the occupier, Mr. Cook, by old witnesses, that no tythe in kind had been rendered in the memory of any living person, nor any tradition of tythe in kind being ever paid; and a proceeding in a cause in the year 1681 (which, however, was not decided), mentioned the payment as considered at that time to be an old rate of tythes; the rector insisted upon rankness, and produced the taxation of Pope Nicholas so far back as 1291, and some very old inquisitions and returns of the value of the place, to shew, that since legal time of memory the whole rectory of Monks-Kirby, of which Streetfield was only a part, was but of the value of 21l. 6s. 8d. and that therefore this payment of 20l. in lieu of the tythes only of one small part, could not possibly have existed beyond legal memory, viz. Richard I. which was in the year 1189; but the learned and very experienced judge who had tried the cause, explained the law on that subject with great precision, and informed the jury, that unless they could conscientiously find that it was impossible for the payment to have been made as a composition for tythes at that early period, and there was great uncertainty in all the evidence as to the value of the land, and more so of the price of corn in those early times, it ought to be presumed in favour of the payment as a modus: for that, for the sake of quieting possessions and the titles to men's estates, the law does not countenance the

ſetting aſide ſuch ancient payments, but will preſume all that can be preſumed in favour of them. The jury, without heſitation, found for the modus.

GENERAL REVIEW *of* POLITICS,

For SEPTEMBER, 1802.

FRANCE.

THIS extenſive country preſents to the obſervant eye a moſt ſingular ſpectacle. After a revolution which has buried, at leaſt for the preſent, a powerful monarchy in ruins, during which property has almoſt entirely changed owners, the Firſt Conſul, Bonaparte, has ſucceeded, not only in eſtabliſhing his own power in France, but has alſo *organized* Italy, and, in conjunction with Ruſſia, with whom he has formed a ſtrict alliance, dictated to the German empire, and altered its conſtitution according to what they think will beſt ſuit the plans they have formed, and the portions of power they think proper to allow to the reſpective princes of Germany. The Emperor of Germany, as King of Bohemia, reluctantly ſubmits to the iron hand of power; he is endeavouring, but in vain, to counteract the machinations of theſe two great powers; and it is almoſt ludicrous to obſerve the different manner in which it is received by the different parties.—Some of the miniſters have actually returned thanks to Ruſſia and France for their interference; while the Bohemian miniſter inſiſts that the affair of the indemnities affects only the interior of the Germanic empire, and that no foreign power ought to take any intereſt in it.—The French miniſter for foreign affairs repreſented the matter to Count Cobentzel, as merely a *projet*, or recommendation; but it is eaſy to ſee that it is a recommendation which muſt be attended to. In the mean time, France and Ruſſia complain of the ſlow proceedings of the diet, and urge diſpatch; while, from the movements of Pruſſia, it is not difficult to diſcover that the court of Berlin acts in concert with the others. Such an alliance as this muſt not only be ſucceſsful in its attempts on the Germanic body, but is formidable to the independence of Europe.

A treaty of peace, commerce, and alliance, has alſo been concluded by the Firſt Conſul with the Ottoman Porté.—The free navigation of the Black Sea is conceded, with other privileges. It appears, however, that nothing is contracted for, which is prejudicial to the commerce of England, and that every right conceded to the French merchants, is alſo ſtipulated for the Engliſh.

A power of leſs conſequence indeed, though once more formidable than at preſent, has alſo bowed ſubmiſſive before the victorious

torious genius of Bonaparte. As the Firſt Conſul had cauſe to complain of ſome depredations committed by the Algerines on the commerce of France, it was determined to demand immediate ſatisfaction. As a negociation with ſuch a power was moſt likely to be ſucceſsful when powerfully ſupported, the French ambaſſador Hulin was accompanied by a force of ſix ſail of the line. The conſequence was, a full conceſſion of all the demands of the Firſt Conſul; though the dey complains that the uſual contribution remains unpaid; a requiſition to which the French government is not likely particularly to attend.

PORTUGAL.

The court of Liſbon was lately under a ſerious alarm, occaſioned by the abrupt departure of the French miniſter, General Laſnes. It has ſince appeared, that the cauſe of the diſagreement originated in the bad conduct of the ambaſſador. On his firſt arrival, his baggage, which was very conſiderable in quantity, paſſed without a ſearch. It was not long, however, before ſeveral other immenſe packages arrived, which were known to contain contraband goods, and for the purpoſe of ſale, either for the benefit of the ambaſſador, or ſome of his ſuite. Theſe packages the officers of the cuſtoms inſiſted upon examining, and they were ſupported by their government. The ambaſſador, on the contrary, inſiſted on the officers being diſmiſſed from their employments for their preſumption. This unreaſonable demand was refuſed by the prince regent, and General Laſnes immediately requeſted paſſports, and left Liſbon with all the precipitation of military reſentment. The facts were immediately communicated to the Firſt Conſul, by the Portugueſe government, and the ex-miniſter, it is ſaid, on his return, experienced a very cool reception from Bonaparte, and another ambaſſador was immediately nominated.

SWITZERLAND.

Some alarming ſymptoms of inſurrection have appeared in ſome of the leſſer cantons. Thoſe of Schwitz, Uri, and Underwalden, in particular, attached to the old conſtitution, and diſguſted with the new by the conduct of the commiſſary, General Keller, who took upon himſelf to nominate all the members of the councils by his own authority, openly declared for the freedom of election, and the religious and political inſtitutions of their anceſtors. Notwithſtanding the oppoſition of the greater cantons, theſe brave men have formed magazines, and organized a conſiderable force. The other cantons, it is ſaid, have now adopted the dangerous reſolution of calling in a French force, and this meaſure will probably give the death-blow to Helvetic liberty.

HOLLAND.

HOLLAND.

An act of general amneſty has been decreed by the Batavian legiſlature, with the exception only of thoſe perſons who ſurrendered ſhips of war or fortreſſes to the enemies of the republic, in the courſe of the war, ſhould they be unable to excuſe themſelves before a council of war inſtituted for an inquiry into their conduct.

A propoſal was ſubmitted to the ſame body for indemnifying the Eaſt India ſtockholders. The indemnity was to have conſiſted in the grant of an excluſive trade to China, and the advance of ſix millions to eſtabliſh that trade. The propoſal was, however, rejected altogether.

The legiſlature ſanctioned an excluſive privilege of the whale fiſhery off the Cape of Good Hope in favour of a ſociety to be eſtabliſhed for fifteen years, at Amſterdam, and afterwards adjourned to the 15th of October.

GREAT BRITAIN.

In this country nothing very material has tranſpired, except that his majeſty has again prorogued parliament, which will not meet till the 16th of November. This circumſtance is a proof of the ſtrong probability of the continuance of peace, and alſo that miniſters are provided with the means of defraying the public expences for ſome conſiderable time longer.

DESCRIPTION *of an* EXECUTION *at* ROUEN.

Written by a Spectator.

ON Saturday morning, Auguſt 28, 1802, I was informed that the order of Bonaparte had juſt been received for the execution of ten young men the ſame morning, who had been convicted as brigands (robbers); four of them had committed murders, and the reſt as aſſociates under the pretence of robbing in the cauſe of the king. They were related to perſons of great reſpectability in Normandy. The Firſt Conſul having magnanimouſly reſerved to himſelf by the new conſtitution the heavenly attribute of granting mercy, when the exerciſe of juſtice and true humanity will admit it, an appeal was made in favour of theſe unfortunates, and their fate ſuſpended a few days until his decree could be obtained. The reſult proved that no intereſt could prevail to ſcreen the guilty, or prevent the auſtere maxim of our late great luminary of criminal juriſprudence, whoſe doctrine was, "fiat juſtitia, ruat cœlum."

In the Grand Place the preparations were compleat at noon; the machinery conſiſted of a ſquare platform, about the height and dimenſions of the erections for executions in London, with a

high poſt in the centre of the outer frame, in which was drawn up in a groove the fatal inſtrument, fixed in a heavy block of wood not unlike a pile driver; the inſtrument ſhaped like a ploughſhare, falling perpendicularly upon the criminal's neck, which was placed face downwards through a circular hole like the pillory, his body being extended on a plank at full length. The principal executioner was employed with his underling and workmen in adjuſting the apparatus, in depoſiting the wooden ſhells, or troughs, in which the bodies after death were to be placed, and in adjuſting a large bag, pitched and tarred, which was fixed on the outer part of the frame work to receive the heads on decapitation. Saw-duſt and coarſe cloths were prepared for the purpoſe of obliterating the effuſion of blood.

During the preparations the place of execution, which is the largeſt ſquare in the city, was completely crowded, and every window filled with lookers-on. At one a detachment of cavalry and a party of infantry attended to clear the ground near the ſcaffold, and all the agents of juſtice were in readineſs to perform their reſpective offices; without noiſe or clamour this great aſſemblage were waiting, but, in common converſation, heard ſome of the crowd obſerve, that the executioner trembled like an Engliſhman, which ſeemed to be conſidered as a good point.

The proceſſion commenced at one, and the culprits were conveyed in two open waggons, the upper part of their bodies naked, their hair cut ſhort, and their arms pinioned, a crimſon cloak, like a ſcarf, ſurrounding the ſhoulders of four of the priſoners as a diſtinction, pointing them out as murderers. Each of them was attended by a confeſſor, and, on arrival at the ſcaffold, they were inſtantly conducted up the ſteps to the platform, which they aſcended with great ſteadineſs, reſignation, and marks of courage; in the ſame moment the executioner placed the firſt of them in his appointed ſituation; he then immediately gave the ſignal to his underling to pull up the weighty block which contained the guillotine, and to let it drop, which was done accordingly, but horrible to behold! it failed in its effect, and the operation was repeated four times without complete decapitation; the head at laſt was ſevered from the body with a knife by a third perſon who attended on the ſcaffold. The firſt ſtroke certainly had occaſioned inſtant death, as the body ſcarcely writhed; this defect cauſed general ſenſations of horror, by expreſſions of "a bas! a bas!" from the crowd. The reſt of them met their fate with fortitude, and ſome of them with polite addreſs, by bowing round to the crowd; and the executioner received ſome plaudits for the celerity of his performance afterwards by exclamations of "well done!"—The murderers were the laſt executed; and all the bodies were in their ſhells, with their reſpective heads, in leſs than ten minutes after their arrival. It was ſaid that forty perſons had ſuffered

there

there before, and the performance over in a quarter of an hour. The bodies were immediately conveyed away in the ſame waggons, lightly covered over with coarſe cloths.

DESCRIPTION *of an* ELEPHANT-HUNT *in* CEYLON.

THE ſingularity of the proceſs by which theſe powerful beaſts are caught and domeſticated, renders it one of the moſt intereſting and ſurpriſing ſpectacles in the world.

Three or four thouſand villagers are employed under the direction of about as many hundred huntſmen, for two or three months, encircling a large tract of country, at one end of which is built a large and ſtrong wooden kraal, or nearly circular paliſade, of about a quarter of a mile in circumference. The hunters continue gradually reducing their circle, and frightening, by fires and ſhouts, the elephants which are within it towards the kraal, through the gates of which they are at laſt obliged to enter; and immediately they are in, a portcullis drops, and incloſes them.

There is another gate, with a portcullis, which leads into a ſtill ſtronger ſtockade, about twenty feet wide, and that leads into a third, which is ſtill ſtronger, but ſo narrow, that one elephant only can paſs at a time. When a ſufficient number of elephants are driven from the firſt kraal into the ſecond, the portcullis is then let down by a man who is ſtationed at the top of the place where they enter for that purpoſe.

The beaſts being cruelly ſqueezed by their numbers and ſize, endeavour to make their eſcape, and run into the third kraall.

As ſoon as an elephant has fairly entered this third kraal, croſs-beams are inſerted between the upright poles, which effectually prevent his return. As he advances, the ſame proceſs is continued, till he arrives at the very end, where he is jammed ſo cloſely as not to be able to move backwards or forwards. Strong ropes, with running knots, are faſtened round his legs and neck, and theſe laſt are drawn through ropes faſtened on the necks of two tame elephants, accuſtomed to the buſineſs, who are brought to the end of the kraal, where the priſoner is confined. The poles, which form the door of it, are then removed, and the ropes which faſten the neck of the wild elephant to thoſe of the tame ones, are lightened, till he is made ſecure between his new companions. The ropes are then taken from his legs, and his two conductors oblige him, by ſqueezing him with their bodies, and beating him with their trunks, if refractory, to accompany them to the place ſet apart for his ſtable. He is tied ſo faſt, with his head between two poles fixed in the ground, that he cannot move, and from the peculiar docility of his nature, ſoon aſſumes ſufficient manſuetude to become uſeful for the purpoſe of man.

Colombo, January 2, 1802. I. A. B.

A HINT.

THE weakeſt reaſoners are always the moſt poſitive in debate; and the cauſe is obvious, for they are unavoidably driven to maintain their pretenſions by violence, who want arguments and reaſons to prove that they are right.

Particulars of the late Mr. J. Caſſon, a very famous Hunter.

THE above named ſingular character, who was a barber by trade, died at Egremont a few weeks ſince, having nearly completed his 86th year. He was one of the keeneſt hunters that has lived in the world ſince the days of Nimrod; but all his chaces, it ſeems, were pedeſtrian.

"The hares (ſays a humourous writer, in one of the Cumberland papers) may blow a joyful *mort* on this occaſion, and proclaim a jubilee, for ſo fatal an enemy their race has never known. In the ſeaſon, they adminiſtered to his amuſement in the field, and ſupplied the chief comforts of his table throughout the year. With him, ſhambles were a ſuperfluous appendage to a market; and as Boniface, in the Beaux Stratagem, ſays of his ale, this ſingular perſonage might be ſaid, "to eat his hare, to drink his hare, and to ſleep upon his hare." Though his fee for ſhaving never exceeded a penny, yet, by an extraordinary economy, he had amaſſed a conſiderable property, ſaid to be above 7000l. notwithſtanding the annual expence of a game-certificate, an expence, however, which, in his caſe, was juſtifiable, upon the ſtricteſt principles of frugality. He continued to handle his razor, till ſuperſeded by the great ſhaver, death.

To the above account, it may juſtly be added, that the late Mr. Caſſon was of ſporting memory, but by no means of ſportive memory. He regularly took out a game certificate ever ſince the act paſſed relative to ſuch licence; he always entered four game-dogs; paid both the government and parochial taxes promptly and cheerfully; and made to the commiſſioners of the income tax a very fair and liberal return of his income.

Although a keen ſportſman, he never injured any man, either in the purſuit of his favourite diverſion, nor, as is believed, in any other way. He had ſeveral tenants, farmers, but he never advanced their rents. He loſt ſeveral ſums, at different times, but however fond of money the world might ſuppoſe him to be, there was nothing in gain powerful enough to induce him to ſeek legal redreſs in ſuch matters. He had been a ſportſman from his youth, but indulged his paſſion for the field merely as an amuſement; for no man was more liberal of his game." In ſhort, though a perſon of ſuch a character might paſs for an oddity among his neighbours, it is not denied by any, that he was an inoffenſive, friendly, honeſt man.

Anſwer, by P. Gove, of Exeter, to Recluſe's Rebus, inſerted Auguſt 23.

WHILE Britons liberty and peace poſſeſs,
Joy fits exulting in each patriot's breaſt;
And every heart, elate, doth joyful ſing,
May Heaven preſerve our gracious GEORGE the King.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. Chubb, of Everſhot; J. Paſcal, of Briſtol; J. Squance, H. Humphreys, W. Strong, and T. Whicker, of Exeter; J Tremlett, of Newton Abbott; W. Mann, and W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; T. Adey, and J. Lewis, of Poole; Angelina, of Linkinhorne; W. England, and Juvenis, of Dorcheſter; R. Maſſett, of Saltaſh; and John Whittle, of Upway.

Anſwer, by J. Tremlett, of Newton Abbott, to P. Gove's Enigma, inſerted Aug. 23.

WHEN night's dark mantle's ſpread around
The GLOW-WORM moveth on the ground.

⁂ We have received the like anſwer from J. Paſcal, of Briſtol; H. Humphreys, T. Whicker, and J. Squance, of Exeter; T. Adey, and J. Lewis, of Poole; W. England, and Juvenis, of Dorcheſter; Recluſe, of Awliſcombe; R. Maſſett, of Saltaſh; J. Channon, of Ottery; and William Mann, of Aſhburton.

Anſwer, by J. Paſcal, of Briſtol, to Sobrius's Charade, inſerted Auguſt 23.

THE youth whoſe principles are wiſe
A BLACKGUARD ſurely will deſpiſe.

†‡† We have received the like anſwer from W. Mann, and W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; T. Whicker, and H. Humphreys, of Exeter; T. Adey, and J. Lewis, of Poole; Recluſe, Awliſcombe; and J. Channon, of Ottery.

A CHARADE, *by W. Mann, of Aſhburton.*

HAIL thou my firſt, benignant maid!
Who doſt thy choiceſt bleſſings ſpread
Around Britannia's iſle;
Majeſtic next! at thy command
My firſt deſcended on our land,
And bade us wear a ſmile:
Let every good and Chriſtian ſoul
Pour forth the praiſes of my whole.

An ENIGMA, *by J. Paſcal, of Briſtol.*

FROM that great cauſe of everlaſting light
Whence every bleſſing flows with pure delight,
I come divinely ſent; and loud proclaim
Eternal praiſe to my Creator's name.
Without my aid the lovely, blooming ſpring
No fragrance would diffuſe, no pleaſures bring;
The various plants of generative earth
By me are kindly foſter'd from their birth;
When thunders roll, and vivid lightnings flaſh,
And earth convulſive rends with horrid craſh,
Amid this direful din I ſhew my power,
And add new horrors to the dreadful hour.

POETRY.

For the Weekly Entertainer.

WILLIAM *and* MARY.

WHERE the ſad willows, near the ſtream,
Their drooping oziers ſpread,
Far from the din of city's noiſe,
Stood William's humble ſhed.

By him was all the giddy world,
And all its cares forgot;
Save when with gentle ſighs he gaz'd
At Mary's diſtant cot.

The envy of the nymphs around,
That deck'd the village plain,
A lovely ſhepherdeſs was ſhe,
And he a blooming ſwain.

Long had ſhe gain'd young William's heart,
And long his faith had tried;
But all the love her eyes expreſs'd,
Her cruel tongue deny'd.

Oft on the rock-clad mountain's brow,
Or thro' the ſhadowy grove,
His lute, in artleſs numbers, told
The miſeries of love.

By dubious hope's depreſſive pow'r,
And ſlighted love o'ercome,
He left, at length, for diſtant realms,
His friends and native home.

The victim now of ſad remorſe,
And anguiſh of deſpair,
Poor Mary ſought her William's cot,
But—William was not there.

She too, with griefs and frenzy ſeiz'd,
(For hope would cheer no more)
Fled like a maniac from the plains
To the bleak ocean's ſhore.

There would ſhe weave, in many a knot
The ſea weeds thro' her hair;
There, to the ſullen waves, ſhe told
Her tale of ſad deſpair.

She pluck'd the wild fruit from the ſteep,
And oft, at evening's cloſe,
Within the cavern's rocky gloom
Enjoy'd a ſhort repoſe.

How ſweet the lily of the vale,
In morning dews array'd,
Thus lovely, in a flood of tears,
Appear'd the drooping maid.

Its deadly hue the primroſe pale,
Had o'er her white cheek ſpread;
For now, alas! the bluſhing roſe
Of chearful health was fled.

'Twas in December's dreary hours
Black clouds the ſky o'ercaſt;
And many a blaze of vivid light
O'er the wild ocean paſt.

When Mary from the rainbeat cleft
A diſtant bark eſpied,
Toſs'd by the cruel wintry wind
Before the bellowing tide.

Soon on the fatal rocks ſhe drove,
Whilſt many a ſhriek of fear,
And many a ſad reſounding groan
Reach'd Mary's liſtening ear.

One fainting mariner alone,
All drooping, wet, and pale,
Was caſt upon the fatal ſhore,
To tell their doleful tale.

And as he view'd the frantic girl,
With trembling lips he ſaid,
"O lend, fair nymph! in pity lend
"A dying man thy aid.

"Not far from hence my friends reſide,
"O haſte, and bid them come,
"That I may draw my lateſt breath
"At my dear native home.

"There ſhall I claim one pitying
"glance
"From Mary's azure eye;
"There ſhall ſhe have my laſt adieu!
"My laſt departing ſigh!"

The damſel heard—with frantic ſtare,
Her long-loſt love ſhe ey'd;
And falling in his faithful arms,
Kiſs'd his pale cheek—and died.

O who can paint the lover's look!
How throbb'd his languid breaſt!
When to his heart a lifeleſs corpſe
His Mary's charms he preſs'd.

"And muſt I, (cried the dying youth)
"And muſt I hear no more
"That voice which could revive me
"now,
"With hopes denied before?

"Cold, cold her lily breaſt appears,
"Death chills each drooping limb;
"But what he now has ſtole from *me*,
"I ſoon ſhall ſteal from him.

"Yes,

" Yes, dear departed ſpirit! yes,
" I haſten to that ſhore,
" To thoſe delightful realms of bliſs,
" Where we ſhall part no more"—

He ſaid; and lo! his flattering ſoul
Burſt its frail bonds of clay,
And on the wings of faith aroſe
To univerſal day.

No more freſh ſcenes of earthly bliſs
Let mortal hope create,
For ah! how blind is man at beſt!
How dark the ways of fate!

To reach ſome happineſs afar
He waſtes his fleeting years;
But when he thinks to graſp the prize
The phantom diſappears.

Thus have I ſeen a ſportive child,
A bubble oft purſue,
As eagerly as I have bliſs,
And juſt as vainly too.

Devon. HILARIUS.

A THANKSGIVING.

WOULD that David's ſacred fire
Dwelt upon the kindling lyre,
And my ardent ſoul could feel
All the prophet's holy zeal!
Then my grateful ſong would be
Leſs unworthy, Lord! of thee.
But thou, O Father! Thou wilt hear
The humble ſtrain with gracious ear;
And read the thought but half expreſt,
More perfect written in my breaſt.

Thou! whoſe divine paternal hand
Has ſcattered bleſſings o'er the land,
O hear, in mine, thy people's praiſe;
To thee our thankful hearts we raiſe,
For peace, whoſe ſoothing, welcome voice
Bids ev'ry hill and vale rejoice;
For piety, whoſe altars free,
Unſtain'd by bloodſhed, burn to thee;
For plenty, whoſe all-cheering ſmile
Is beaming on this joyful iſle;
And freedom, from whoſe fragrant bow'rs
Our daily path is ſpread with flowers.
O may our hearts, for love like thine,
Eternal glow with warmth divine;
And own, corrected at thy throne,
The wondrous mercies thou haſt ſhewn.
So ſhall thy bleſt Britannia be
A choſen temple, worthy thee;
And to thy endleſs glory prove
The ſeat of virtue, peace, and love.

H. WALKER.

Dover, September 12.

The CONSOLATION: *A* TALE.

A Labouring hind, whoſe daily toil,
To turn the glebe or cloath the ſoil,
From morn to eve purſu'd with pain,
Brought him but ſmall returns of gain,
His thoughts all ripe for diſcontent,
To a near fiſhing harbour went:
Here, as the tide alternate flow'd,
He dragg'd the net, or bore the load;
And here his better fates prevail'd,
Since neither pay nor victuals fail'd:
But here his wife and children five,
In health and hopes began to thrive.
" But then (cried Hodge,) behold my
" clothes,
" My jacket rent, theſe tatter'd hoſe.
Then in a morning tide, his ſhoes,
In wading thro' he chanc'd to loſe;
And ſtood amidſt the lab'ring crowd,
Repining at his fate aloud.
A batter'd ſailor, on the ſhore,
A trunk almoſt, and nothing more,
Propp'd on his crutch, cried with a groan,
" Tis hard to have no ſhoes, I own:
" Yet little, ſure, would I repine,
" Were but your preſent fortune mine;
" Then, ere you theſe complaints re-
" peat,
" Bethink thee, friend, I've got no
" *feet.*"

S——E.

Lines ſuppoſed to be written by a Lady, deſerted by her Lover.

I Caught a bright fantaſtic cloud,
And in the glittering moonlight dreſs'd it;
Then, of the beauteous pageant proud,
Too fondly to my boſom preſs'd it.

I fancy'd by the dubious light,
I ſaw my phantom ſweetly ſmiling;
My boſom throbb'd with wild delight,
All reaſon's ſober fears beguiling.

What dreams of joy my ſoul revolv'd!
What pleaſant viſions hover'd o'er me!
Till by th' incautious warmth diſſolv'd
My treaſure faded from before me.

Condemn'd henceforward ſtill to grieve,
My ſenſes rove in wi'd confuſion;
Nor can I ſcarcely yet believe
My bliſs was all a vain illuſion.

From treacherous hope will I no more
Deceitful forms of pleaſure borrow;
But ſilently my loſs deplore,
And ſink a prey to ſilent ſorrow.